

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1.-15. (Canceled)

16. (Currently Amended) A method for verifying information on a managed device, comprising:

a computer system comprising a managed device performing:

receiving, from a requester that stores an incorrect attribute value for an SNMP MIB object and that is unable to read and write the SNMP MIB object directly, and unable to obtain MIB object specification information, and that does not have a correct value for the SNMP MIB object, a SNMP GET request identifying an SNMP MIB object and also containing ~~one or more~~ a plurality of non-null values comprising proposals for a correct value of the SNMP MIB object, wherein the SNMP GET request requests a determination as to whether any of the ~~one or more~~ values ~~match~~ matches the correct value stored in the SNMP MIB object of the managed device; and

determining whether any of the ~~one or more~~ values ~~match~~ matches the correct value stored in the SNMP MIB object; and

completing execution of the SNMP GET request by:

transmitting a notification message indicating whether any of the ~~one or more~~ values ~~match~~ matches the correct value of the SNMP MIB object

and without providing the correct value in response to the SNMP GET request.

17. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 16, wherein the notification message identifies, using an index position and not the correct value, which one of the ~~one or more~~ values ~~match~~ matches the correct value stored in the SNMP MIB object.

18. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 16, wherein ~~a specification for~~ the SNMP MIB object specification information is not generally available.

19. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 16, wherein the SNMP MIB object stores an attribute for a user credential for a protocol other than SNMP.
20. (Original) The method of Claim 16, wherein the SNMP MIB object stores a username or a password for one member of the following group consisting of: a telnet protocol, a SSH protocol, a TFTP protocol, a RCP protocol, a SNMP protocol, a TACACS protocol, and a RADIUS protocol.
21. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 16, wherein the determining step results in determining that none of the ~~one or more~~ values ~~match~~ matches the correct value of the SNMP MIB object, and wherein the transmitting step completing execution of the request comprises transmitting a notification message that includes an error message that describes an encountered problem in determining whether any of the ~~one or more~~ values ~~match~~ matches the correct value of the SNMP MIB object.
22. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 16, wherein the transmittal step comprises the step of storing, in a specified MIB object of the managed device, a notification value indicating whether any of the ~~one or more~~ values ~~match~~ matches the correct value of the SNMP MIB object.
- 23.-37. (Canceled)
38. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage medium for verifying information on a managed device, comprising:  
receiving, from a requester that stores an incorrect attribute value for an SNMP MIB object and that is unable to read and write the SNMP MIB object directly, and unable to obtain MIB object specification information, and that does not have a correct value for the SNMP MIB object, a SNMP GET request identifying an SNMP MIB object and also containing ~~one or more~~ a plurality of non-null values comprising proposals for a correct value of the SNMP MIB object, wherein the SNMP GET request requests a determination as to whether any of the ~~one or more~~ values ~~match~~ matches the correct value stored in the SNMP MIB object of the managed device,

determining whether any of the ~~one or more~~ values ~~match~~ matches the correct value stored in the SNMP MIB object; and  
completing execution of the SNMP GET request by:  
transmitting a notification message indicating whether any of the ~~one or more~~ values ~~match~~ matches the correct value of the SNMP MIB object and without providing the correct value in response to the SNMP GET request.

39. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable storage medium of Claim 38, wherein the notification message identifies, using an index position and not the correct value, which one of the ~~one or more~~ values ~~match~~ matches the correct value stored in the SNMP MIB object.
40. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable storage medium of Claim 38, wherein a ~~specification for~~ the SNMP MIB object specification information is not generally available.
41. (Previously presented) The computer-readable storage medium of Claim 38, wherein the SNMP MIB object stores an attribute for a user credential for a protocol other than SNMP.
42. (Previously presented) The computer-readable storage medium of Claim 38, wherein the SNMP MIB object stores a username or a password for one member of the following group consisting of: a telnet protocol, a SSH protocol, a TFTP protocol, a RCP protocol, a SNMP protocol, a TACACS protocol, and a RADIUS protocol.
43. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable storage medium of Claim 38, wherein the determining step results in determining that none of the ~~one or more~~ values ~~match~~ matches the correct value of the SNMP MIB object, and wherein the transmitting step comprises transmitting a notification message that includes an error message that describes an encountered problem in determining whether any of the ~~one or more~~ values ~~match~~ matches the correct value of the SNMP MIB object.

44. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable storage medium of Claim 38, wherein the transmitting step completing execution of the request comprises the step of storing, in a specified MIB object of the managed device, a notification value indicating whether any of the ~~one or more~~ values ~~match~~ matches the correct value of the SNMP MIB object.

45.-59. (Canceled)

60. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for verifying information on a managed device, comprising:

one or more processors;

means for receiving, from a requester that stores an incorrect attribute value for an SNMP MIB object and that is unable to read and write the SNMP MIB object directly, and unable to obtain MIB object specification information, and that does not have a correct value for the SNMP MIB object, a SNMP GET request identifying an SNMP MIB object and also containing ~~one or more~~ a plurality of non-null values comprising proposals for a correct value of the SNMP MIB object, wherein the SNMP GET request requests a determination as to whether any of the ~~one or more~~ values ~~match~~ matches the correct value stored in the SNMP MIB object of the managed device,

means for determining whether any of the ~~one or more~~ values ~~match~~ matches the correct value stored in the SNMP MIB object; and

means for completing execution of the SNMP GET request comprising:

means for transmitting a notification message indicating whether any of the ~~one or more~~ values ~~match~~ matches the correct value of the SNMP MIB object

and without providing the correct value in response to the SNMP GET request.

61. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of Claim 60, wherein the notification message identifies, using an index position and not the correct value, which one of the ~~one or more~~ values ~~match~~ matches the correct value stored in the SNMP MIB.

62. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of Claim 60, wherein ~~a specification for~~ the SNMP MIB object specification information is not generally available.

63. (Previously presented) The apparatus of Claim 60, wherein the SNMP MIB object stores an attribute for a user credential for a protocol other than SNMP.
64. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 60, wherein the SNMP MIB object stores a username or a password for one member of the following group consisting of: a telnet protocol, a SSH protocol, a TFTP protocol, a RCP protocol, a SNMP protocol, a TACACS protocol, and a RADIUS protocol.
65. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of Claim 60, wherein the means for determining determines that none of the ~~one or more~~ values ~~match~~ matches the correct value of the SNMP MIB object, and wherein the means for transmitting transmits a notification message that includes an error message that describes an encountered problem in determining whether any of the ~~one or more~~ values ~~match~~ matches the correct value of the SNMP MIB object.
66. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of Claim 60, wherein the means for transmitting comprises means for storing, in a specified MIB object of the managed device, a notification value indicating whether any of the ~~one or more~~ values ~~match~~ matches the correct value of the SNMP MIB object.
- 67.-81. (Canceled)
82. (Currently Amended) An apparatus, comprising:  
one or more processors; and  
a computer-readable storage medium ~~carrying~~ storing one or more sequences of instructions for verifying information on a managed device, wherein execution of the one or more sequences of instructions by the one or more processors causes the one or more processors to perform the steps of:  
receiving, from a requester that stores an incorrect attribute value for an SNMP MIB object and that is unable to read and write the SNMP MIB object directly, and unable to obtain MIB object specification information, and that does not have a correct value for the SNMP MIB object, a SNMP GET request identifying an

SNMP MIB object and also containing ~~one or more~~ a plurality of non-null values comprising proposals for a correct value of the SNMP MIB object, wherein the SNMP GET request requests a determination as to whether any of the ~~one or more~~ values ~~match~~ matches the correct value stored in the SNMP MIB object of the managed device, determining whether any of the ~~one or more~~ values ~~match~~ matches the correct value stored in the SNMP MIB object; and completing execution of the SNMP GET request by: transmitting a notification message indicating whether any of the ~~one or more~~ values ~~match~~ matches the correct value of the SNMP MIB object and without providing the correct value in response to the SNMP GET request.

83. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of Claim 82, wherein the notification message identifies, using an index position and not the correct value, which one of the ~~one or more~~ values ~~match~~ matches the correct value stored in the SNMP MIB object.
84. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of Claim 82, wherein ~~a specification for~~ the SNMP MIB object specification information is not generally available.
85. (Previously presented) The apparatus of Claim 82, wherein the SNMP MIB object stores an attribute for a user credential for a protocol other than SNMP.
86. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 82, wherein the SNMP MIB object stores a username or a password for one member of the following group consisting of: a telnet protocol, a SSH protocol, a TFTP protocol, a RCP protocol, a SNMP protocol, a TACACS protocol, and a RADIUS protocol.
87. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of Claim 82, wherein the determining step results in determining that none of the ~~one or more~~ values ~~match~~ matches the correct value of the SNMP MIB object, and wherein the transmitting step comprises transmitting a notification message that includes an error message that describes an encountered problem in determining whether any of the ~~one or more~~ values ~~match~~ matches the correct value of the SNMP MIB object.

88. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of Claim 82, wherein the transmitting step comprises the step of storing, in a specified MIB object of the managed device, a notification value indicating whether any of the ~~one or more~~ values ~~match~~ matches the correct value of the SNMP MIB object.